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Epidemiology News

Georgia Southern University

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JPHCOPH Student Publications

November 16, 2012

JPHCOPH Examines Health Insurance Coverage

A study conducted by Linda Ekperi, a doctoral student at Georgia Southern University Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health found that increasing percentages of diabetics had no insurance. Diabetic Whites were more likely to be covered by private programs than diabetic

The coauthor of this report, which has been published in fall issue of Ethnicity and Disease, include Ms. Shamola Greene, and Dr. Ahmed Dehal and Dr. Jian Zhang also from at Georgia Southern University Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, and Dr. Ana Lòpez of Institute for Families in Society at the University of South Carolina examines Blacks. Hispanics were the group falling through the cracks between private programs due to low income and government programs because of immigration status. . The lack of adequate Health insurance may result in a downward spiral of the diabetic condition, imposing an increased financial strain on family and the society as a whole.

To read the full story, click [here](#).

JPHCOPH Examines Educational toolkits

A collaborative study including Ms. Lisa Watson-Johnson, Mr. Jigar Bhagatwala, Ms. Claudia Reyes-Garcia, and Dr. Juan Luque of Georgia Southern University Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health along with Ms. Andrea Hinojosa Director of Southeast Georgia Communities Project and Dr. Cathy Meade with the Moffitt Cancer Center examines an educational toolkit to promote cervical cancer screening. Cervical cancer incidence and mortality continue to affect Hispanic women in the U.S. disproportionately. Our project sought to refine a cervical cancer intervention designed for use by community health workers, or promotoras, in rural southern Georgia. We collaborated with Hispanic promotoras to refine a Spanish language educational flipchart featuring cervical cancer topic areas for use in screening promotion. Our study adds to the existing literature of the benefits of engaging promotoras to develop and disseminate cancer health messages to hard-to-reach populations.

The Hispanic population in the U.S. South is increasing and more community-based cervical cancer screening interventions are needed to address the barriers Hispanic women encounter in seeking basic health care such as preventive screenings, especially in rural areas with few providers. In the future, we plan to develop additional intervention components, such as tailored education videos, to improve the appeal of the multimedia intervention toolkit, and to test the effectiveness of this toolkit in increasing cervical cancer screening rates among Hispanic immigrant women in rural Georgia.

To read the full story, click [here](#).

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